

The Hong Kong Daily News

No. 8404 四季 十八日 第 18 十月 10 日

HONG KONG, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1881.

四月 17 日

PRICE 2/- PER MINI

ARRIVALS.

November 25, WILLOW, British schooner, 275, O. A. H. 17th November, General - MEYER & CO.

November 26, SALLY S. RIDGEWAY, American bark, 831, Townsend, Singapore 23rd October, Timber - CHINESE.

November 26, JULIETTE, Spanish steamer, 380, H. Alatana, Manila 22nd Nov., Ballast - BRANDAO & CO.

November 26, KWANTUNG, British steamer, 690, M. Young, Foochow 21st, Amoy 23rd, and Swatow 25th Nov., General - DOUGLAS LAPRAK & CO.

November 26, FOONCHING, British steamer, 390, H. Young, Whampoa 26th Nov., General - JARDINE, MATTHESON & CO.

CLEARANCES.
AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE.

26TH NOVEMBER.

Fookong, British str., for Shanghai.

Decina, German str., for Saigon.

Carl Miller, German str., for Bangkok.

Actis, Danish str., for Yokohama.

Canots, Dutch str., for Amoy.

H. Young, British str., for Hoihow.

Tuckow, British str., for Swatow.

DEPARTURES.

November 26, DOUGLAS, British str., for Coast Ports.

November 26, TANNADICE, British str., for Port Darwin, &c.

November 26, DEUCALION, British steamer, for Shanghai.

November 26, YANOTEZ, British str., for W'pos.

November 26, CANOTTA, Dutch str., for Amoy.

November 26, W.M. PHILLIPS, Am. str., for Honolulu.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Julieta, str., from Manila - 59 Chinese.

Per Kwangtung, str., from Coast Ports - 1 European and 51 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per Esmeralda, str., for Manila - Dr. Ernest Strive, Messrs. J. L. Houston and Salcedo.

Per Tramatic, str., for Australia - Mrs. Smith and 2 children, Miss Conley, Misses G. H. and D. H. Love, 8 Europeans and 20 Chinese, steerage.

Per Douglas, str., for Amoy - Mrs. Goudard, for Foochow - Capt. and Miss Anderson, and L. H. Gauthier.

TO DEPART.

Per Thibet, str., for Yokohama - Mrs. Zappé, child and European nurse.

REPORTS.

The Spanish steamer *Julieta* reported left Manila on the 22nd inst., and had strong monsoon throughout.

The British steamer *Kwangtung* reported left Foochow on the 21st inst., and on the 23rd, and Swatow on the 25th. From Foochow to Amoy strong N.E. breeze with heavy sea and dull overcast sky. From Amoy to Swatow light N.E. breeze with fine weather. From Swatow to port moderate S.E. breeze with fine, clear weather. Steamer at Swatow time of leaving were *Seicu*, *Marquis Seicu*, *Chingfu*, *Yungching*, *Ingberg*, and one of H. M. gunboats.

AMONG THE PIPING.

November 26, ARRIVALS.

20. Douglas, British str., from Foochow.

20. Jason, British str., from Shanghai.

20. Hoihow, British str., from Swatow.

21. Maria, German str., from Hongkong.

21. Cyclops, British str., from Hongkong.

21. Raisby, British str., from Foochow.

21. Zetra, British str., from Hongkong.

21. Natura, British str., from Hongkong.

November 26, DEPARTURES.

21. Chingfu, British str., for Swatow.

22. Conchita, British str., for Hongkong.

22. Vigilant, British str., for Hongkong.

22. Hoihow, British str., for Shanghai.

22. Douglas, British str., for Hongkong.

22. Cyclops, British str., for Shanghai.

22. Thales, British str., for Hongkong.

NAGASAKI SHIPPING.

November 26, ARRIVALS.

1. Tantallon, British str., from Shanghai.

1. Enterprise, American corv., from Foochow.

2. Kamtschatka, Russian str., from Kobe.

2. Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Shima.

2. Natura, British str., for Hongkong.

3. Lark, German str., from Shanghai.

3. Thibet, British str., from Hongkong.

3. Teheran, British str., from Kobe.

3. Clara Bahwan, British bark, from Shihl.

4. Ingrian, German str., from Hongkong.

4. Ingrian, German str., for Kobe.

5. Teheran, British str., for Hongkong.

5. Paddington, British str., for Shanghai.

5. Paddington, British str., for Shanghai.

6. Yokohama Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.

6. Natura, Russian str., for Odessa.

7. Natura, Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.

7. Ingrian, German str., for Hongkong.

12. Ingrian, German str., for Kobe.

12. Teheran, British str., for Shanghai.

13. Teheran, British str., for Shanghai.

13. Westmarch, British str., from Kobe.

13. Westmarch, British str., from Kobe.

13. Moray, British str., from Hongkong.

13. Elsie, German str., from Amoy.

14. Iphigenia, German str., from Kobe.

14. Natura, Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.

14. Natura, Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON AND CO. FAMILY AND DISPENSING CHEMISTS.

By Appointment to His Excellency the GOVERNOR and His Royal Highness the DUKE OF EDINBURGH, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS

PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS, DRUGGISTS' SUPPLYMEN, AND CERATED WATER MAKERS.

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REPAIRED. PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. WATSON and Co., HONGKONG DISPENSARY. 23

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on editorial matters should be addressed "The Editor," and those on business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until unclaimed.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, NOVEMBER 27TH, 1854.

On the ultimate importance of Port Darwin there can be little doubt in the mind of any thinking person, though its growth has as far been comparatively slow. The recent visit of the Duke of MANCHESTER to the Northern Territory will, however, no doubt serve to bring prominently before the British public the striking claims of Port Darwin to attention. At a farewell dinner given to him at Port Darwin, His Grace expressed the highest opinion of the Territory, which he declared to be better grassed and watered than even Queensland, while its mineral wealth is great and varied. The Duke, moreover, has not failed to recognise the matchless situation of the port, which, when the transcontinental railway is completed, must inevitably become the port of arrival and shipment to and from Europe, India, China, Japan, &c. The advantages to be derived from the construction of this railway are so vast that we marvel it was not made long ago. The passage from London to Sydney through the Suez Canal, via Colombo, occupies from 46 to 50 days by the P. & O. or Orient steamers, and to Melbourne two days less. Were Port Darwin made the terminus of these lines, and the remainder of the journey performed overland by railway, a saving of from eight to nine days would be effected, the sea voyage shortened by eleven or twelve days, and the latter portion of it would be made through a smooth sea. The Australian Colonies, and therefore New Zealand likewise, would thus be brought into closer contact with the mother-country and with India and China, commerce would develop, and emigration increase considerably. The railway is really in process of slow formation, a line already running north from Adelaide to Farina, some three hundred and fifty miles, or rather more than a seventh of the distance to Port Darwin, which, following the telegraph line, is 2,200 miles. There are no great engineering difficulties across the continent which cannot be avoided, and a large portion of the country through which the railway would pass is well adapted for grazing purposes and cultivation. Of course it would be necessary for New South Wales and Victoria to effect junctions with this grand trunk line of Australia—as it might fitly be called—but this could readily be done by connecting the line from Deniliquin, in New South Wales, to Farina or Broken Hill in South Australia. This transcontinental railway is naturally of primary importance to South Australia, the prosperity of which promises it would most directly and immediately benefit, but it would also give an enormous stimulus to all the colonies by opening up the country, facilitating communication, developing new industries, and bringing them all into closer intercourse with Europe and the East. The traffic along the railway would, we believe, be considerable even at the outset, and it would grow with the settlement of the country and increase of the population. The trade between Australia and the Far East is also destined to increase steadily, and the tens from India and China to Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide would undoubtedly go by this route, while the horses and cattle exported to India and the Far East would probably all be sent via Port Darwin. Coal has not, we believe, been discovered in the Northern Territory as yet, but tin, copper, and galena have been found in addition to the iron, the mines of which have long been profitably worked. The mining industries will, therefore, be sufficiently extensive to contribute some support to the railway, while the commerce that would spring up would also assist to promote its financial success. We have seen how a population and wealth sprang up along the course of the great American Pacific railway, though they are also being developed along the Canadian Pacific railway, and we may be certain that the same results would follow the opening of the Australian transcontinental line. The railway everywhere proves the pioneer of progress and commerce, and still more markedly is this the case when it abridges the passage over a great ocean highway, as would be the case by Port Darwin being brought into direct communication with the great Australian cities by rail. The incentives that exist for pushing on this great and important enterprise are manifold and powerful, and it is to be hoped that no spirit of rivalry or feeling of avarice will prior to delay its execution.

The British barque *Three Brothers* was to leave the Kowloon dock yesterday.

The Choral Society's first practice of the season will take place on Thursday, 4th December, at 5.30 p.m., at the City Hall.

The Agent informed us that the Massachusetts Maritime steamer *Natal*, with the next French mail, left Saigon at six o'clock a.m. yesterday for this port.The *Bole da China* says that the election of members of the Macao Senate took place on Sunday, the 20th November, and the following gentleman have been elected:—President, Saturnino Persira; Aldermen, Luis Joa Baptista, Floriano da Cruz, Lourenco I. Pardos, Eliezer Almeida, and Vicente Josee Gueiros.

It will be seen, by our Police Intelligence, that all the prisoners but one charged with being concerned in the Tint Tse Mui murder were yesterday discharged by the Magistrate at the Police Court, for want of evidence. This one was the only man the evidence implicated in the case, and he was proved to be in possession of a box containing the body of the deceased man identified as his property, and which he was wearing as his property, and which he was wearing during the day he was murdered.

The return carriage match between the Hongkong Volunteer Corps and the representatives of the British Legion of the Royal Artillery took place on Saturday afternoon at the Kowloon on Saturday afternoon. The ranges will be the same as on the previous occasion, viz. 200, 300, and 400 yards, with five shots at each and the team on a side. The volunteer team has been altered slightly, and may be a trifle stronger with regard to the tail, but the other men have not been practising on their own, and there is no reason to suppose that they ought to be, and there is no room for any great hope of their being able to surpass their previous record. The volunteers will leave Pedder's Wharf at 2.30. There is some talk of a match between the volunteers and police when this one is finished, but there is nothing definite settled about it.

The London *Globe* of the 11th inst. has the following remarks on the duel between Captain Fournier and M. Henri Rochefort:—“For a few minutes, yesterday, the ‘nois picnic ground,’ for the use of which Captain Fournier and M. Rochefort were indebted to the local knowledge of the Chinese, was dreary and desolate. But the object of the contest, the result of which was to decide whether France is justified in virtually waging a destructive war upon China. That is the only logical method of accounting for the combatants’ flight, in which both the combatants, judging from the results, seem to have done their very best to stay each other. In this respect they behaved as true sportsmen, though they regarded the combat as a mere trial of strength, the object of which, if it had any, was to decide whether France is justified in virtually waging a destructive war upon China. 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EXTRACTS.

A LATE ROSE.

I sent a little maiden

To pick for me a rose;

The sweetest and the fairest

That in the garden grows—

A blab rose, proud and tender,

Upon its stem so slender,

Swing in dreamy splendor

Where yellow sunbeams glow;

She came like little maiden,

With drooping, downcast head,

And slow, reluctant footsteps,

And this to me she said:

"I'd go to sweet blab rose

In all the garden-gloves;

There are no summer roses;

It must be they are dead."

Then bent to the maiden,

And touched her shining hair—

Dear heart! in all the garden

Was nothing half so fair!

"Nay!" said I, "let this rose

Die in the garden-gloves

When ever fate deposes,

If this rose may wear."

Julia C. Dorn, in *Lippincott's Magazine*.

PRONUNCIATION.

For three centuries a certain school of educationalists have complained of the divergence between the manner of spelling and pronouncing the words of a language. The doctrine of the adherents advanced a phonetic system of spelling, that "words should be written as they are spoken," and that "orthography should write on paper a man's voice like nature,"—was preached in the sixteenth century, Jonson, a Rhenish scholar, attempted to introduce "a rational system" of orthography as early as 1759, and 12 years later Moliéster, a master of St. Paul's School, wrote a treatise on the same subject. Another writer, in 1850 complains that "children are taught to name letters which yield to them a vulgar sound to the word looked for, whereby is bred loathsome in the learner and quarrels with the teacher," as the grievance of the supporters of a phonetic system is an ancient one. But like many other grievances, it is one more easily acknowledged than resisted. The mode of pronouncing certain words remains a test of nationality, of social rank, of early training; and if all persons spoke as they pronounced, strange words would be introduced into written language.

Some philologists trace the origin of the various languages of modern Europe to the varying pronunciation of the Latin tongue, which the Romans had spread over the world. Italy and Spain "retained" the sonorous pronunciation of the Latin accent; "the Gaul, cutting down his words contracted a nasal sharpness, and the North men, in the stock of their hard redundant consonants, lost the vowels completely." Many French words certainly present an abbreviation of the Latin names; *sin* a shortening, *mat* for *matum*, *amis* for *amicu*, *bon* for *bene*; and so on in instances too many to quote here. A slight divergence of pronunciation will create a multiplicity of dialects in one national language. For centuries the south of France was divided between the language of "Ac" and the language of "Oui," the dwellers on each bank of the Loire pronouncing the affirmative "yes" after a different fashion. In the present day "English as She is Spoke" is a foreign tongue in the mouth of a Somersets, a Westmoreland, and a Yorkshire opera; an educated gentleman and a Cockney shopman. It is not so long since a glossary to the "Exmoor language" was drawn up for the use of lawyers on the Western Circuit, who were often at a loss to understand a rustic witness, and in many cases words which appear to be fragments of a foreign tongue are simply old familiar terms pronounced after a local fashion. Mr. Walker, the orthopist, asserted that during a course of private reading with 24 Oxford undergraduates he was able to detect each man's birthplace or early home by noting slight peculiarities in his accent, so strong an individuality is attached to the pronunciation even of educated persons. A Yorkshireman rarely rids himself of his broadest "i's" and "u's" (so-called a booder) would probably be a North countryman's phonetic spelling of the familiar song, and Somerset folks turn all their "a's" into "e's." The Suffolk whale is ridiculed by their neighbours, while the Lancashire people turn their words into one another in a manner perplexing to an uninitiated ear.

If all English people spelt as they pronounced, our language would be yet more puzzling to a foreigner. Pronunciation is a great test of social rank, as well as a mark of the place of a man's early education. Every country has its language of its upper classes; a language distinct, not alone in phrase, but in tone, from that used by the people. It is easier to understand than to describe the subtle inflections of accent which distinguish the pronunciation of an educated person from that of his social inferiors. Certain words and letters are truly Shakespearian. "You" is an impossible pronoun to the typical "Arry, who invariably converts it into "ye." "Poor letter H" has long pleaded for more general use, but "H" (as a terminal) is equally neglected by certain classes, who speak of "runnin' for runnin'" "goin' for going," "singin'" for singin'." &c. Even the School Board has succeeded in totally effacing these clear distinctions, in fact underlined persons not infrequently betray their origin by an over-care in the pronunciation of certain test words, like the Irish lady who spoke of the "creature of Vesuvius."

The educated classes themselves differ in their pronunciation of some words; and the fashion of one century is not that of another. A modern poet could not make "tear" rhyme with "ahey," yet one of the most correct versions of the last century wrote—

"Great Anna, when thos realms obey,

Would sometimes come take, and sometimes tea."

Swift used to ridicule those who pronounced wind in the manner it is usually spoken, saying that "he had a mind to find why they called it wind." An opponent, however, aware that Swift broadened the "w" in cold, retorted "but if he might be so bold, he should like to be 'bold' why the Dean called it 'good'." But the most bewildering of all distinctions to a foreigner must be the varying pronunciations of "cough," "bough," "snough," and "thorough," so difficult alike when written, as it is when spoken. The Chinese language is said to depend chiefly upon pronunciation for the meaning of its words, four sounds being attached to each written word, its import varying as it is pronounced with a level, a raised, a returning, or a lessened accent. "As most of these meanings differ considerably, one word of four letters signifying cabbage, atrium, book, and the aurora, according to its pronunciation, students of Chinese need to cultivate a clear and distinct articulation. Undeclared persons nearly always write phonetically, and it is an assistance, in perusing letters from such individuals to bear in mind their peculiarities of pronunciation, as this gives a key to the written phrases. The famous bill—

To a wood, a narrow 6.
And a wood, a wide 6.
To a wood, a narrow 6.
And a wood, a wide 6.
The total charge being only 6s., was easily deciphered by a person aware that the good carpenter pronounced "wood" and "would" not "like" and "transferred it" into "a." Translated into different pronunciation, the

charge was for a "wooden" barrow, which would not do, and was consequently returned to the maker, who then supplied a "wooden barrow" which would do.

The absence of a settled standard of spelling and the phonetic system in which many old authors wrote, considerably adds to the difficulty of deciphering many an ancient MS. Even those proper names our ancestors were unsettled in their orthography. A Dr. Crayne, who lived in 1660, was apparently as doubtful about the spelling or pronouncing of his own name, as he signs himself on various dates "Crayne," "Crone," "Crown," "Crown," "Crown,"—subtlety changes to ring upon a short name. Sir Walter Raleigh spelt his name in five different ways, but we know that his contemporaries called him (as he has signed himself) Rowlly, from an enigma on his name, said to have been written by a lady of the time—

"What's bad for the stomach, and the word of dialogue?"

Is the name of the man the king will honour?"

I think but rarely of these man." James I. is said to have exclaimed, when Raleigh was introduced by name into his presence. "Great would be the honor of the introduction of a simple system of spelling, it would be useless unless an arbitrary law of pronunciation has practically disappeared, and the enterers are quiet and peaceful, like the kindly, gay Parisian theatre in general."

While the house, we shall find abundant reason for self-consultation. London theatres are as a rule, clean and comfortable; the seats are reasonably roomy; exortion, since the most unscrupulous adoption of the "no system" has practically disappeared, and the entrances are quiet and peaceful, like the kindly, gay Parisian theatre in general."

The philosopher would lament at the total extinction of old landmarks which would result from a purely phonetic style of spelling; and while voices and tones differ widely, all the world could scarcely be brought to one uniform scale of pronunciation.—John.

THE FRENCH AND ENGLISH THEATRE COMPARED.

While entertaining a comfortable conviction that England is still "soot" and grey, and the first nation in the world, Englishmen are prone to admit the reality of their inferiority in particular fields of art. And at no time is our national superiority so clearly manifested as when the relative merits of English and French dramatic art are the subject of discussion. On this point of once throw up the sponge and surrender without a struggle. A few years ago M. Franquelin Sorey, the official historiographer of Sarah Bernhardt's triumphal tour, visited the English theatre, and was struck by the complete ignorance of the English language, and "all" the London theatres. On his return to his native land, the eminent critic in France every critic is amazed, every director, intelligent, and every actor across the sympathetic recorded his impression in the *XXIème Siècle*; when it appeared that England could boast of no actors, with the doubtful exception of Mr. Irving, worthy to black Coquelin's boots, and of actress St. "a hand Sarah Bernhardt's bare foot." This condemnation, uttered in much the same spirit as Voltaire's well-known remark concerning "les barbares de Shakespeare," was accepted on this side of the Channel with an almost unanimous verdict. All this disconcert, these shores, clad in a chain-mail suit of Parisian prejudices and further protected by a complete ignorance of the English language, and "all" the London theatres. On his return to his native land, the eminent critic in France every critic is amazed, every director, intelligent, and every actor across the sympathetic recorded his impression in the *XXIème Siècle*; when it appeared that England could boast of no actors, with the doubtful exception of Mr. Irving, worthy to black Coquelin's boots, and of actress St. "a hand Sarah Bernhardt's bare foot."

The limitations of space have necessarily made this short parallel very superficial and incomplete. But enough, perhaps, has been said to show that our habitual self-depreciation on this point is unduly exaggerated.—

St. James's Gazette.

THE CRICKETER'S CALENDAR.

There is a disease well known in the hospitals as "housemaid's knee" brought on by too much contact of the knees with hard substances in washing, scrubbing, dusting, and the like. A new development of the disease, which merits the special attention of cricketers, is reported from Nottingham, where William Orsott, the famous professional, is in danger of losing one or both of his legs. Orsott, whose cricketing days ended a few years ago through ill health, was out last week before cricket perhaps often than any other well-known player of his generation, and the result of much contact of the hand—elbow ball, with his leg, has been to re-acute a serious disease. Messrs. W. G. Grace, A. G. Steel, and other celebrated cricketers, whose boasting was to the "Exmoor language," were drawn up for the use of lawyers on the Western Circuit, who were often at a loss to understand a rustic witness, and in many cases words which appear to be fragments of a foreign tongue are simply old familiar terms pronounced after a local fashion.

To begin with the so-called "legitimate drama," it will be universally admitted that we more than hold our own.

Considered simply as models of pure, and elegant French, the works of Corneille and Racine, and in a lesser degree those of Voltaire, Hugo, are undoubtedly admirable productions, but, from a dramatic point of view, a man of taste could dream of comparing their bold, sonorous plaudities, their false and artificial sentiment, with the grand energy and splendid realism of Shakespeare. That the French themselves are beginning to revolt against the long-enforced admiration for the dramatists of the Grand Siècle is evidenced by the fact that not fewer than 12 Corrida Russes guérit le cœur, sans dommages," the removal of feeling is too abrupt to be pleasant; nor does that death of Corrida Russes, the official historiographer of Sarah Bernhardt's triumphal tour, visited the English theatre, and was struck by the complete ignorance of the English language, and "all" the London theatres. On his return to his native land, the eminent critic in France every critic is amazed, every director, intelligent, and every actor across the sympathetic recorded his impression in the *XXIème Siècle*; when it appeared that England could boast of no actors, with the doubtful exception of Mr. Irving, worthy to black Coquelin's boots, and of actress St. "a hand Sarah Bernhardt's bare foot."

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THE DANGERS OF BALLOONING.

The fascination of ballooning is the New York Times' skin to that of gambling. There is a glorious uncertainty whether the aeronaut will come back to be fated and quizzed by men of science, or whether many a sort of unpleasant things will happen to him. Colonel Burnaby took his life in his hands when, alone, an amateur, he set out with a friend of his, the Rev. Mr. Orsott, whose ballooning days ended in 1882, to cross the Channel. I was a glorious risk, and the result was a great prize, a portion of immortality which the gallant officer could scarcely have achieved by even battle or another "Eile to Kihna." That the risk was very real can be readily imagined and repeatedly shown by precedents. In 1875 Donaldson and Grimwood ascended a month later from a melancholy hole-burnt in the airship in the world. The balloon, which was to be fated and quizzed by men of science, or whether many a sort of unpleasant things will happen to him. 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